

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A stamper holder for being mounted in a mold of a mold assembly that molds a substrate for an information recording medium, together with a flat disk-shaped stamper having a molding surface for forming micro asperities in a surface of the substrate for the information recording medium, ~~in a state where~~ when the stamper holder is fitted in an insertion hole ~~formed~~ extending through a central portion of the stamper,

wherein the stamper holder is ~~formed~~ configured such that an outer periphery of the stamper holder is has an increased ~~in~~ diameter on a side toward the molding surface compared with a reverse side thereof to form a sloped surface, ~~and~~ such that part or all of an outer peripheral surface of the stamper holder ~~opposed~~ opposite to an inner peripheral surface of the stamper defining the insertion hole has a shape complementary to the inner peripheral surface of the stamper.

2. (currently amended) A mold component for being mounted in a mold of a mold assembly that molds a substrate for an information recording medium, comprising:

a flat disk-shaped stamper having a molding surface for forming micro asperities in a surface of the substrate for the information recording medium and having an insertion hole ~~formed~~ extending through a central portion thereof; an inner peripheral surface of the central portion that defines the insertion hole comprising a sloped surface which has a larger diameter on the molding surface side compared with a diameter on an opposite side; and

a stamper holder ~~for being fitted~~ configured to fit in the insertion hole ~~formed~~ extending through the central portion of the stamper, thereby holding the stamper, ~~the stamper holder being formed such that an outer periphery of the stamper holder is increased in diameter on a side toward the molding surface compared with a reverse side thereof to form a sloped surface, and part or all of an outer peripheral surface of the stamper holder opposed~~ opposite to an inner peripheral surface of the stamper defining the insertion hole has a shape complementary to the inner peripheral surface of the stamper.

3. (currently amended) A mold component as claimed in claim 2, wherein the stamper holder is ~~formed~~ configured such that an end face of the stamper holder on a cavity side is flush with the molding surface.

4. (currently amended) A mold assembly that molds a substrate for an information recording medium, comprising:

a mold; and

a mold component ~~for being~~ configured to be mounted in the mold, of the mold component comprising:

a flat disk-shaped stamper having a molding surface for forming micro asperities in a surface of the substrate for the information recording medium and having an insertion hole ~~formed~~ extending through a central portion thereof; an inner peripheral surface of the central portion that defines the insertion hole comprising a sloped surface which has a larger diameter on the molding surface side compared with a diameter on an opposite side; and

a stamper holder ~~for being fitted~~ configured to fit in the insertion hole ~~formed~~

extending through the central portion of the stamper, thereby holding the stamper, ~~the stamper holder being formed such that an outer periphery of the stamper holder is increased in diameter on a side toward the molding surface compared with a reverse side thereof to form a sloped surface,~~ and part or all of an outer peripheral surface of the stamper holder ~~opposed~~ opposite to an inner peripheral surface of the stamper defining the insertion hole has a shape complementary to the inner peripheral surface of the stamper.

5. (currently amended) A mold assembly as claimed in claim 4, wherein the stamper holder is ~~formed~~ configured such that an end face of the stamper holder on a cavity side is flush with the molding surface.

6. (new) The stamper holder as claimed in claim 1, wherein the insertion hole extends between first and second planar surfaces defining the stamper and has oblique innermost peripheral surfaces extending between the first and second planar surfaces.

7. (new) The mold component as claimed in claim 2, wherein the insertion hole extends between first and second planar surfaces defining the stamper and has oblique innermost peripheral surfaces extending between the first and second planar surfaces.

8. (new) The mold assembly as claimed in claim 4, wherein the insertion hole extends between first and second planar surfaces defining the stamper and has oblique innermost peripheral surfaces extending between the first and second planar surfaces.